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[Reply.]

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL U. S. M. H. S.,
Washington, D. C., July 10, 1900.

SIR: Referring to your letter of the 1st instant, stating that the Mexican quarantine authorities have a completely equipped disinfecting plant and formalin gas generator; that they can utilize the police department for preventing communication from shore to vessels and from vessels to shore; that a vessel, its furnishings, and the clothing of the crew can be thoroughly disinfected at this port, and stating that yellow fever was declared epidemic during the week in which you were writing and that the article of the quarantine regulations that requires all baggage from this port to be disinfected has been enforced; also, giving further information regarding the matter and inquiring whether the disinfection of a vessel certified to by the Mexican authorities and by you would be accepted in New Orleans, Mobile, Galveston, Tampa, and other ports of the Gulf, I have to inform you that all of the ports mentioned by you are under the control of local quarantine officers and that the Marine-Hospital Service can not decide whether they will accept such certificates of disinfection or not. The Bureau is gratified, however, to know that the Mexican authorities are alive to the importance of this matter and hopes that their action, as outlined by you, will prove efficient in protecting the United States against the infection of yellow fever from your port.

Respectfully,

WALTER WYMAN,
Surgeon-General U. S. M. H. S.

Acting Asst. Surg. S. H. HODGSON,
United States Marine-Hospital Service,
United States Consulate, Vera Cruz, Mexico.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *July 9, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended July 7: Deaths from all causes, 35; deaths from yellow fever, 6; deaths from smallpox, 9. For the past three days the rain has been continuous, and the weather very cool.

During the week 4 vessels were inspected and issued bills of health and 63 passengers were granted health certificates.

The harbor continues free from infection, and the fever seems to be confined to the lower classes in the new portion of the city.

The disinfection of outgoing baggage is progressing very favorably under the direction of the local health authorities.

I have heard nothing new in regard to the progress of the fever in Coatzacoalcos, Cordoba, Salina Cruz, or Progreso. I heard that a death from yellow fever had occurred in Campeche, but it has not yet been authenticated.

Respectfully,

SAML. H. HODGSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Escape of Italian immigrants at Vera Cruz.

[Telegram.]

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *July 16, 1900.*

Thousand Italians imported for railroad in May have broken contract and scattered.

HODGSON.

WYMAN, *Washington, D. C.*